

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BELGRA 00715 030924Z

20

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SCA-01 JUSE-00 L-03 CIAE-00 DODE-00

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E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: PINS PINT YO

SUBJ: JUSTIC OFFICIALS DISCUSS CRIME STATISTICS AND EXTRADITION

1. TWO REPRESENTATIVES OF FEDERAL SECRETARIAT FOR JUSTICE
AND ORGANIZATION OF THE FEDERAL ADMINISTRATION DISCUSSED
CRIME STATISTICS AT PRESS CONFERENCE JAN 30.

2. OFFICIALS SAID THAT 1,154 PEOPLE HAD BEEN CONVICTED
OF POLITICAL CRIMES IN 1974, ACCORDING TO "POLITIKA"
(ANOTHER PAPER GAVE THE FIGURE AS 1,155). 452 OF THESE
WERE CHARGED WITH PROVOKING RACIAL AND RELIGIOUS INTOLERANCE,
482 FOR DAMAGING THE REPUTATION OF THE STATE AND ITS
REPRESENTATIVES AND 101 FOR SPREADING FALSE INFORMATION.
MAXIMUM SENTENCE AWARDED FOR THESE POLITICAL CRIMES WAS
7 YEARS. THOSE CONVICTED OF ECONOMIC CRIMES INCREASED
FROM 5,851 IN 1960 TO 7,964 IN 1974.

3. REGARDING THE DEATH PENALTY, OFFICIALS SAID THAT IN
THE LAST 15 YEARS JUDGES PRONOUNCED AT MOST 6 DEATH
SENTENCES A YEAR, BUT THAT NOT ALL OF THESE WERE
CARRIED OUT. THEY SAID THAT A CUSTOM NOW EXISTS OF COMMUT-
ING DEATH PENALTIES TO PERIODS OF IMPRISONMENT.

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4. REGARDING EXTRADITION, THE OFFICIALS SAID THAT

NEGOTIATIONS ARE NOW UNDERWAY FOR NEW EXTRADITION TREATIES WITH AUSTRIA AND ITALY. A TREATY WITH BELGIUM HAS BEEN COMPLETED BUT IS NOT YET RATIFIED. BETWEEN 1972 AND THE PRESENT, YUGOSLAVIA RECEIVED 30 EXTRADITION REQUESTS, MAINLY FROM WEST GERMANY AND AUSTRIA. TWO REQUESTS WERE DENIED, ONE BECAUSE OF A TIME LIMIT (PRESUMABLY A REFERENCE TO THE US REQUEST FOR EXTRADITION OF AIRCRAFT HIJACKER ALLAN SHEFFIELD) AND THE OTHER BECAUSE THE ALLEGED CRIMINAL HAD BECOME A YUGOSLAV CITIZEN. DURING THE SAME PERIOD YUGOSLAVIA SUBMITTED 185 REQUESTS FOR EXTRADITION, OF WHICH 18 WERE DENIED. SWEITZER

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